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Go

California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Muslim Student Association

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**Cal Poly Muslim Student Association Sponsors Forum May 5**

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- The Muslim Student Association will sponsor a forum entitled "The Middle East: No Justice, No Peace" May 5th from 6-8 p.m. in Room 124 in Cal Poly's Performing Arts Center. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

"After President Bush launched a pre-emptive strike against Iraq, and appears to plan attacking other Middle Eastern countries, one wonders where the Palestinian-Israeli conflict stands," explained Naiyerah Kolkailah of the Muslim Student Association.

"Everyone has questions. 'Why are they always fighting? Whose land is it? Why can't they all just get along? What will bring about peace?' Such questions can only be answered with knowledge about the controversy's history and exposure to truths either hidden or denied by the media and politicians in Washington D.C. The forum seeks to answer those questions."

The forum will include a discussion of historical events and eyewitness perspective of the occupied Palestinian territories.

Speakers include Cal Poly History Professor Manzar Foroohar, who will present a historical analysis of the area in conflict, provide a slide presentation, and discuss the impact of the American presence in the Middle East.

Also speaking will be peace activist and organization consultant Rae Levine, who will give an eyewitness report of her experiences while she was volunteering in the Occupied Palestinian Territories in 2002 as part of an international human rights team.

Event Co-Sponsors are The Progressive Student Alliance of Cal Poly, Women In Black, and The Newman Catholic Center, and HopeDance Media.

For more information, please contact Naiyerah Kolkailah at (805) 550-5917.

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